"Inside the walls of the capitol"



On February 9th, a group of EMSH employees traveled to Jackson to attend MSH's annual Legislative Breakfast as well as visit our area legislators at the Capitol. Beneath the magnificent domed edifice that serves as the focal point of state government, we were able to visit with Senator Sampson Jackson, Drew White, House page for Representative Johnny Stringer, Representative Wilbert Jones (who recognized our delegation as we sat in the gallery,) Representative Greg Snowden (who was presenting legislation for discussion,) and Representative Toby Barker. With other mental health agency employees from throughout the state being a presence this day at the capitol, we felt that our desire to say thank you for what you have done and what you will do for those we serve was met with gratitude by all.

Those making the legislative trip to Jackson were EMSH Director Charles Carlisle, EMSH Assistant Director Christopher Barnes, Joint Commission/Policy & Management Director Ann Glazar, QA Director Rachael Scarbrough, CDU Director Yolanda McDade, and Public Relations Director Susie Broadhead.

By: Susie Broadhead







MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR...

A belated Happy New Year's to you! I hope that this year will find all of us in good health and with a bright outlook on the future. This edition of Eastern Exposure will feature activities and special events held at EMSH since October 2010. Once again, I would like to thank all of the volunteers—employees and others who were involved in making the holiday season so special for our individuals receiving services. Also, I would like to thank the FRIENDS Organization of EMSH for their generous contributions which allow us to go the extra mile.

A few noteworthy events I would like to mention are that construction has begun on the new entrance gate and the infrastructure project that will allow us to start on our new receiving unit. We said goodbye to the skilled nursing home as it was torn down with the anticipation of a new parking area soon.

Aside from this new parking lot, another major change has recently been implemented. As many of you are

aware, 86 EMSH dietary positions were turned over to our new contractual food vendor, Valley Foods (required by the DMH Board). It has been a tough transition and one of the hardest things I've ever experienced, telling 86 loyal people that they no longer worked for EMSH. Valley Foods picked up 55 of the 86 with most of the long term vested employees finding jobs throughout other sectors of the hospital. A special thanks to each and every single person who helped with this tough transition.

On a lighter note, if you didn't make it to the Halloween festivities at the Friendship Center, you really missed a good time! This is a prime example of one way we're able to engage in special employee family fun because of FRIENDS' support. It is a great opportunity for the children to have a fun and safe environment in which we can mix and mingle with an opportunity to meet one another's families and marvel over all of the cute costumes. And, Yes! We did indeed get to have the honor of winning first place in the Meridian Christmas Parade. Our Maintenance Department made the extravagant parade float aesthetics possible, along with the help of a few other volunteers. In the midst of all this holiday fun, we held our yearly Legislative Luncheon which was well attended. We were able to honor some of our local government officials who help EMSH continue to operate and press forward with new facilities so that we are better able to care for our IRS.

We are now in the middle of the Legislative session, and decisions are being made in regards to funding levels and how best to operate the Department of Mental Health. When you see your Legislators, pat them on the back and say "Thanks." Let them know how much we at EMSH truly appreciate everything that they do. They have a tough job, with little to no new revenue available and a faltering economy. Our people have always taken care of us, and we know that they will do the best they can. Again, I hope you and yours have a healthy and prosperous new year. Enjoy fun-filled updates throughout the rest of these pages!



As newly elected president of the **EMSH Friends** Board, I would like to say that I am excited about 2011 for the clients and staff of EMSH. Being a retiree with 35 years of service to EMSH and a long history of working with our Friends Organization since its inception, I am honored to serve as Board President for the year 2011. I will be working closely with 11 other board members to help provide activities, programs, awards, receptions, etc., that will benefit the clients and staff of the hospital throughout my term.

The Board has recently revised the Guidelines for requesting funds from the organization. Funds requested for the upcoming year will be submitted to the board during our 4th quarter meeting, usually held in October, for consideration. By January of the next year, requisites will know whether their requests have been approved

"GREETINGS FROM YOUR EMSH FRIENDS BOARD PRESIDENT"



for the year and the amount of monies.

Request for Funding Guidelines along with Forms to be completed by those requesting funds can be accessed electronically through the EMSH intranet homepage. Click the shared documents link, then EMSH Friends Organization.

The following 2011 Events totaling \$17,950 were approved at the January Friends Board Meeting: Employee Appreciation Party, Meridian Open Golf Classic, Safety Award Program, Annual Service Awards, BBQ Chicken Plates and Yard Sale, Employee of the Quarter/Year Program, Summer Sizzle, Halloween Carnival, Christmas Parade, Legislative Luncheon, and Retirement Receptions.

As you can see, we plan for a very eventful year at EMSH. So, if you are not a member of EMSH Friends Organization, please consider joining for 2011. Friend's membership is \$5 for the entire year, so it's an easy way to help make a difference. You can become a Friends member through EMSH payroll deduction or at any of the Friends Fund Raiser events during the year. Our most recent fundraiser, the Spring Book Sale, totaled sales of \$5481.87. Many thanks for your support. Our next fundraiser is the Leather/ Fragrance Sale on April 27th and 28th. Join us!

I'm looking forward to a great year with many memorable events and friendships.

-Jan Eggler



STEPPING IT UP IN THE WORLD OF COMPLIANCE

By: Ann Glazar, JC/PM Director

East Mississippi State Hospital has set an ambitious goal: to complete preparation activities and apply for an accreditation survey by The Joint Commission by the end of 2011. The psychiatric hospital, the Community Services Division and the Nursing Home Division will be surveyed against rigorous standards that apply to each program and that are designed to ensure quality patient care and safe practices. Demonstrating compliance with these requirements will require EMSH to assess its current systems and processes objectively against the Joint Commission's requirements, to establish ongoing quality monitoring activities that will measure the effectiveness of services, and to develop a culture that values the principles of continuous improvement.

As part of the hospital's accreditation activities, Joint Commission Resources consultation and educational programs and education are regularly offered to department

leaders about the requirements of the standards. Consultants have inspected buildings, toured units, conducted patient tracers, observed and interviewed employees



about their job responsibilities, and reviewed required documents, plans and protocols.

EMSH used consultants in 2008 to assess the condition of the physical plant, in 2010 to assist the Medical Staff to revise bylaws and establish credentialing and privileging processes, and in 2011 to review medication management practices. Consultants help the hospital employees to see

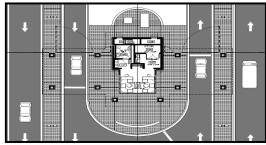
"our daily operations through fresh eyes." Employees have attended live and web-based accreditation-related training programs to expand their knowledge about requirements. Work teams composed of hospital employees have reviewed the Joint Commission's requirements to identify areas of strength as well as areas for improvement. Findings from these teams are collected and referred to the divisions or departments with the authority to implement necessary improvements.

EMSH is engaged in an ongoing process to build and support an organizational culture in which each employee feels a personal responsibility for ensuring high-quality care and patient safety. Creating a culture in which people are proud of their work and are willing to measure their efforts against nationally recognized standards of excellence will yield positive results not only for the hospital but also for the individuals we serve.



GOING

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Out with the old and in with the new! Isn't that the way we put it? This is surely becoming a trend at East Mississippi State Hospital lately. Here on our grounds, quite literally, there is much ground being covered.

With expectations and plans of providing the best quality care, massive reconstruction change is happening in full swing! Currently, phase one of this reconstruction plan is easy to sight if you pass by or enter into EMSH's gates. Main campus buildings have been demolished, followed by hundreds of dirt loads in order to lay stable ground for the soon to be born structures.

"The various construction projects proposed for the next two years represent approximately \$20,000,000. in new buildings and equipment for our Hospital," says Rick Entrekin, EMSH Director of Risk Management. If the first Receiving Unit Building is approved, another \$12,000,000 will be spent here. We are fortunate to receive this investment in EMSH at a time when construction money is hard to come by."

Administration is and continues to work hard to account for each and every dollar spent for and through the hospital, rendering the ability and privilege of moving forward with a heart for those we serve.

























WHAT A PARTNERSHIP!

Haley Campbell, a student at Mississippi State University Meridian, began an internship at East Mississippi State Hospital (EMSH) at a time when many of the state's mental health facilities were facing major budget cuts and even possible closures. And it didn't take long for the healthcare administration major to realize that it was absolutely imperative that the state government keep mental health facilities, like East Mississippi, funded.

"Patients with mental illness need care just like those with cancer," stated Campbell. "And facilities like East Mississippi can't provide those services unless they are allocated adequate funds."

It was Campbell's desire to learn more about the field of mental health and behavioral health services that led her to seek an internship at East Mississippi State Hospital.

According to Dr. Carlton Young, assistant professor of healthcare administration at MSU Meridian, students, like Campbell, who plan to graduate with a bachelor of business administration degree (B.B.A) with a concentration in healthcare administration, must successfully complete an internship consisting of a minimum of 100-hours work experience (unpaid) over the course of a semester.

"An internship," noted Young, "is a valuable learning experience and complements the coursework covered in the classroom. It is through an internship that students gain 'real world' experience and exposure to professional work behavior."

Under the supervision of EMSH Assistant Director Larry McKnight, Campbell worked four days a week at East Mississippi State Hospital during the fall of 2010. During that time, she had the opportunity to take part in many activities including attending the Mississippi Board of Mental Health monthly board meeting, EMSH governing board meetings, treatment team meetings and she even sat in on a meeting with the hospital's architect to discuss the demolition of an old building on the Facility's main grounds.

Campbell shadowed all the Department Directors to gain knowledge of how each department contributes to the overall operations of the hospital and spent full days at both EMSH nursing homes and Friendship Center, the Community Services Outreach Division, to observe their day-to-day activities.

"I thoroughly enjoyed my time at East Mississippi State Hospital," said Campbell. "My internship provided me with experiences a classroom could never offer."

"I learned firsthand how different EMSH daily operations are from that of a general hospital, especially in the area of risk management, an area I was particularly interested in," noted Campbell. "I learned also that staffing needs are different at a mental health facility."

"This immersion in the working environment, like Haley experienced at East Mississippi State Hospital, is exactly why we require our students to complete an internship before graduating," stated Young. "At Mississippi State we feel this is critical to the education and development of competent and successful health care managers.

"We are very proud of our partnership with MSU," states Larry McKnight (Asst. Director). "Healthcare Administration encompasses many fields of endeavor and an internship at EMSH provides students with a different perspective to the normal medical hospital. Interns have an opportunity to observe and learn about geriatric, adolescent, and community based care, as well as adult psychiatric care. Dr. Young and the Healthcare Administration staff have done an outstanding job in providing these students with the base knowledge they will need to compete in the job market after graduation, and EMSH is pleased to be part of that learning experience."

Submitted by: Lisa Sollie, MSU Admissions Counselor













Grenaye Sullivan and Robert Landrum

Mayor Cheri Barry & DMH Board welcome all in attendance

Chris Barnes (EMSH Asst. Director), Kerry Nichols, and Glynn Kegley When DMH Board members arrived, Mr. Clifford "Bud" Davidson, Division Director Wanda Kennedy, and Dorsey Lee Hunter greeted them with charming grins and an informative Nursing Home brochure.

DMH BOARD MEETING

Are there more inviting faces to be welcomed by other than those who call our EMSH Nursing Home Division "their HOME?" On October 21, 2010, residents of JTC bestowed upon the Department of Mental Health Board members and honored guests their inviting smiles as all arrived bright and early for East Mississippi State Hospital's annual hosting of the Board's monthly meeting.

Among the many reports given, proposals presented, and constructive decisions made, much was accomplished during the day. "I couldn't be more proud of our EMSH family representatives," said Mr. Carlisle, as he referenced the contributions of our entire Facility. EMSH updates as well as visionary goals and projects underway were presented to the Board by Wanda Kennedy, Susie Broadhead, Rick Entrekin, Larry McKnight, Melanie Howard, and Chan Sumlin-Brown.



Sheriff Billy Sollie, County Supervisor Joe Norwood, City Councilman Jesse Palmer, and Representative Wilbert Jones



Senator Videt Carmichael & Diana Mikula



Larry McKnight (EMSH Asst. Director), Mayor Cheri Barry, Ed LeGrand (DMH Exec. Director), & Charles Carlisle (EMSH Director)



Larry McKnight, Senator Videt Carmichael, Senator Haskins Montgomery , Rep. Wilbert Jones, Senator Sampson Jackson, Ed LeGrand, Charles Carlisle, & Chris Barnes (EMSH Asst. Director)

LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON

The 2010 EMSH Legislative Luncheon was held Monday, December 14th in the Recreation Hall. City, county, and state government leaders from across the state gathered to review the operations of the state's 2nd largest mental health facility and its partners.

Even with the ever growing economic unrest, both nationally and statewide, representatives from both the Mississippi Senate and House showed wide support of the hospital and ensured that they would do everything possible to help EMSH with its needs.

Senator Videt Carmichael (Dist. 33) commented on the importance of EMSH to the areas that it serves by saying, "There is no doubt whatsoever how important the people are who you are serving. I want to make sure that you have all the tools in place that you need to better serve your clients at East Mississippi State Hospital."

Although EMSH will likely be facing another budget cut in the upcoming months, the meeting helped EMSH say thank you for the funding that has been provided thus far and to show legislators exactly how the funds have been used. Several legislators and members of the media took advantage of a personal tour around the EMSH campuses. They were shown new improvements to buildings and were also shown the location of future building projects that are slated to begin.



IT WAS THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR!

There wasn't a moment that passed during the Christmas season that didn't bring some form of delightful joy to EMSH! From the whimsical campus and city parades and the countless volunteers to the endless amounts of celebratory eating and gift exchanging, the archive of "priceless memories" certainly experience an influx. It all began in early December, the 2nd to be precise, when our annual Christmas parade entered the gates of campus to bring on the glitz and glamour as well as the serenading sounds of marching



bands and sweet greetings from the 80+ float entries.

And, Santa must've thought all were not naughty—only nice— because his gift bearings were ample. These bearings were especially present through the hands of his elves (Or, shall we say community volunteers?). All in all, it was quite the blessing of a season to remember for all at EMSH.

Special, special thanks to all who contributed time, money, and gifts! You're the hearts who make this place thrive!















Special CONGRATULATIONS to our R.P. White and J.T. Champion Nursing Home Facilities for the outstanding services they render! The two nursing homes received the honor of being rated 2nd in the state by US News & World Report for the consistently wonderful care and services they go the extra mile to provide. Thank you, staff and administration, for making this honor possible!



ONE SWEET MEMORY

Just take a moment . Imagine. Picture Red and white galore with a touch of pink, an abundance of food, a room filled with music and laughter, and none other than the diligent EMSH interdisciplinary team members selflessly serving 150 Individuals Receiving Services. A *beautiful* Valentine's Banquet meal it was indeed. The special day didn't stop at a meal, however. During this event, two residents were deemed the title of Valentine Banquet King and Queen. Adorned with crowns, flowers, and special seating, this king and this queen were beside themselves to be granted the honor by none other than Mr. Carlisle (EMSH Director) and Mr. McKnight (EMSH Assistant Director). Staff and residents were able to submit votes, and the two selected humbly, happily accepted their noble treatment. To top the banquet off, everyone present got to be serenaded by a concert given by Mr. Billie Davis, an EMSH employee.

February 14th wasn't ignored on the grounds of EMSH, to say the very least! Our family of employees put forth wonderful efforts to make the popular holiday a sweet memory for those who reside here. It was a picture of potent teamwork and the root of our purpose. The creative minds behind the implementation of such an event are certainly not to go unnoticed. Debbie Eggleston and Carolyn Staten of the Recreation Department went the extra mile to plan this—all in the name of simply serving with whole hearts.



SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY & RETIREMENT RECEPTION

February 24th was quite the day of delectable celebration and honor for 145 EMSH employees. The day was spent eating the tastiest of tasty cooking, laughing among the closest of co-workers, and making absolute priceless memories— all in the spirit of revelry. Each year, the hospital holds an annual Service Awards Ceremony to recognize those employees who have completed either five years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years, 25 years, 30 years, or 35 years of consecutive service to EMSH. Those who reach the 20





















year mark are bestowed a bit of extra benevolence in having the treatment of a sit-down three course meal at Northwood Country Club. Afterwards, it's off to the reception for all to gather, where many kind words are spoken from the podium on behalf of those who are crossing over to the road of retirement.

In the midst of beautiful set-up, reminiscence, and lots of jokes and laughter, how could one not walk away from such an experience uplifted and embraced! "It's one of those events where we're simply able to kick back together and appreciate one another as one; whereas, more often than not, we're spread out all over grounds tackling our own tasks," says EMSH Director, Charles Carlisle. "It's a really nice thing to see this group of people come together. We mesh, and that sure does make all the difference in the caliber of care we're able to provide."



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Eastern Exposure is a publication for employees and individuals interested in mental health and East Mississippi State Hospital. For more information regarding this issue contact the Office of Public Information at 601 -581-7856.

AT A GLANCE

MARCH

10-12 FRIENDS Book Sale

16 Blood Drive

30 Wellness Fair

APRIL

2 4th Annual Garage and Chicken Plate Sale (EMSH Friendship Center)

27-28 FRIENDS Leather & Fragrance Sale

MAY

6 5th Annual Meridian Open Golf Classic

8-14 Hospital Appreciation Week

Please visit our website for updates on EMSH events, news and happenings a <u>www.emsh.ms.gov</u>

